

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph from page 29, line 15 to page 30, line 24, with the following paragraph.

For construction of recombinant vaccinia viruses, plasmids pRB21 and vRB12 were kindly provided by Drs. Bernard Moss (NIH) and David Steinhauer (National Institute for Medical Research, London, United Kingdom). The 3'SHIV-89.6 plasmid was obtained from J. Sodroski (Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.). Recombinant vaccinia viruses expressing full length (VV-239env) and truncated (VV-239T) SIV mac239 envelope proteins were previously described by Ritter et al., Virology 197:255-264 (1993), and Venv1 expressing the BH10 envelope protein was described by Owens and Compans, J. Virol. 63:978-982 (1989). A recombinant vaccinia virus encoding a truncated Env protein of HIV-1 89.6 was constructed as follows. The HIV-1 89.6 truncated env gene was obtained by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification from the HIV-1 89.6 plasmid with the following primers: the 5'-primer introducing an EcoRI site 5'-GAGAAGAATTCAGTGGCAATGAGAGTGAAGG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 1) the 3'; the primer introducing an *Nhe* I site and a premature stop codon after the codon for amino acid (aa)17 in the cytoplasmic domain 5' CCTGTCGGCTAGC CTCGATCATGGGAGG AGGGTCTGAAACGATAATG (SEQ ID NO: 2). The PCR product was then digested by *EcoR* I and *Nhe* I and ligated into *EcoR* I and *Nhe* I – predigested pRB21 as a donor plasmid for vaccinia recombination. The recombinant vaccinia virus was obtained by a plaque selection system using a recipient vaccinia virus vRB12 described by Blasco and Moss, Gene 158:157-162 (1995). The plasmid pIIIenv3-1 encoding the envelope protein of the HXB2 strain of HIV-1 was obtained from the AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program, Division of AIDS (NIH). The Tat-responsive HIV-LTR in pIIIenv3-1 was used to promote expression of HXB2

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

rev and env. The helper plasmid pCMVtat was kindly provided by Steven Bartz (Fred

Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Wash.). The plasmids expressing SIVmac239 full length Env pCMV239Env(FL) and truncated Env pCMV239Env(T) were described by Vzorov and Compans, Virology 221:22-33, (1996). Virus-infected H9/HTLV-III_BNIH 1983 cells were obtained from the AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program, and the supernatant was used to infect HUT78 cells. HIV-1 IIIB virus was produced by continued passage of infected HUT78 cells and virus stock was prepared as described by Vzorov and Compans, J. Virol. 74:8219-8225 (2000). To prepare HIV-1 89.6 virus, 293T cells were transfected with p89.6 (from the AIDS Research and Reference Reagent Program). At 48 h post transfection, DMEM was removed and the cells were washed once in RPMI. Then 2×10^6 CEMx174 cells were added to a plate in 5 ml of RPMI containing 10% fetal calf serum and cocultured overnight. The following day, CEMx174 cells were removed from virus producing 293T cells and placed in T-25 flasks for continued passage. SIVmac1A11 virus stock was described previously (Vzorov and Compans, 2000).